THE BUZZ



Dear Buzz Readers,

What a great Revel Week we had.

Everyone supporting each other and lots of money raised too! Thank you one and all

Printed in this edition you are able to see the general Revel Week's Income and Expenses for the week. I have also been able to show how much other events during the week made.

I realise that since the opening of the Post Office in our hall there has been a few issues but we believe David, the post master, will now employ someone else to cover for him when he has to attend his medical appointments. We grumbled when we lost the service originally, so please show your support to David and his wife, who tries to help by bringing a good range of shop goods for us to buy. We also know what may happen if the Post Office become unhappy with their return.

If you have anything you would like printed in the next Buzz please have it with me by 20th October.

Sheila Cholwill

Editor

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CONTENTS

- 2. Editor's Letter.
- 3. What's On.
- 4. Farewell Year 6.
- 5. Letter from concerned parishioner.
- 6. Sheila's Mentions.
- 7. Table Tennis Club.
- 8. Commissioning of Rev. Christopher Penn.
- 9. Village Coffee Club.
- 10. Methodist Chapel.
- 11. South West Challenge!.
- 12. Bridgerule Primary School.
- 13. Autumn.
- 14. Bridgerule Bowls Club.
- 15/20. Bridgerule Revel Week.
- 21/23 Spotlight on
- 24/35. Business & Community Sponsors.
- 36. What's On.

RE-OPENS 3RD SEPTEMBER

BRIDGERULE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE GROUP

meet at

BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL

every

THURSDAY BETWEEN 2.00 AND 4.30 P.M.

£3.00 (including refreshments)

International Folk Dances are gentle(low impact) dances with a wide variety of tempos and styles. Previous dance experience is not necessary. You do <u>not</u> need a partner. You will need soft shoes, preferably with a low heel. (e.g. Trainers,etc.)

If you would like to join us for an afternoon of dance and fun, please come along, you will be very welcome.

More information please contact Mike Allison 01288 381764



BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL

LUNCHEON

SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

12.30 for 1.00pm

Tickets available from Mrs C Harris on 01288 381329

Price £10.00

All proceeds for St Bridget's Church



A NIGHT WITH JOHNNY COWLING

BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9TH - 8.00pm

TICKETS £10 including refreshments

Available from Sheila on Tel: 01288 381350

Licenced Bar Raffle

PROCEEDS FOR VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHEMENT



BRIDGERULE C OF E (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL

It was with happy memories and fond farewells that Year 6 Leavers enjoyed their Special Assembly on Thursday July23rd. Supported by family, friends and well-wishers the 8 leavers above reflected on their learning, adventures and events which filled their last few years, at Bridgerule Primary School. From left to right Georgia Blewett, Aaron Phillips, Will Cottier, Roman Durant, James Davey, Ella Masters, Sofia Skilton and Jodie Pierson were presented with "Leaver's Hoodies" (being proudly displayed above) and a calculator, from FOBS (Friends of Bridgerule School) and Bibles which were presented by Pat Johnston, on behalf of St Bridget's Church. Miss Michelle Jackson, Head of Teaching and Learning also presented the Spirit of Devon award, the Cat Palmer Most Improved award and the Leadership Award and thanked all the staff for their year long hard work.



'Greetings from Feniton'... Steve and Sandy are settling down in their new home. Steve has begun to landscape 'his' garden and Sandy will be fine as soon as 'her' kitchen has been sorted. Both say they are missing Table Tennis and Bowls but miss their friends even more.

Love to Everyone Hasta la vista!

The Editor has received the following from a very concerned member of our community. I'm sure most dog owners do not allow this to happen but sadly clearly some do not!

Would you please include in the next Buzz a notice regarding dog fouling and penalties.

This is now a serious problem for me and occurs along my front garden including my house entrance; also garage entry and parking area. It seems some owners are happy to allow fouling again and again even in the same area and it seems that more than one owner allows it. Perhaps you could comment by asking who would like to find it in their garden in several places on a regular basis!

Please would you note in the Buzz that it is a public health issue attracting flies and germs, and not just affecting me but also the children who also pass along here daily.

I am trying deterrent powder but it seems ineffective, and I don't want to get an electric deterrent because it might distress dogs (I don't know), but I may have to in the end. I am requesting the council erect a notice and hope this might help.

I am sorry to make such a request in the Buzz but it is not just an isolated incident but continuous and has been happening for a long time.

Regards

Val Pyle Tamara.



MONTHLY TABLE TOP SALE BRIDGERULE VILLAGE HALL

Next table top SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

But the following one is

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER (due to hall booking)

We would still like donated items for our Village Hall Table Top TRADERS £5 A TABLE - Can set up from 12.00 Noon.

PLEASE show your support to this regular sale even if its just to browse and have a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake.

Enquiries to Sheila on 01288 381350

Sheila's Mentions:

Congratulations Kelsey Peschke 18 on the 4th September Also Birthday Wishes to:

Pat Johnston for the 9th September

Sheila Gatland for the 11th September

Marilyn Pickett for the 15th September

Terry Brock for the 17th September

Brian Beadle also for the 17th September

Walter Lashbrook 94 on the 18th September

Daniel Abbott for the 19th September

Samantha Seymour-Smith for the 21st September

Rachel Cann also for 21st September

Lisa Pinn for the 30th September

Alan Jones for the 1st October

Barbara Bowden for the 9th October

Our best wishes go to Pat Hodges of Southfields.

We welcome **Hilary Taylor** to 12 Southfields.

We also welcome Terry and Jane Reeve and their family, Oscar, Josselyn, Florence, Noah and Finn. Not forgetting grandma Peggy at the grand age of 91 to Apple Tree Lodge and we welcome Phil and Sue Saunders to Southfields.

We hope you all enjoy a long and happy stay in our community and look forward to meeting you.

We also wish Steve and Sandy Rickwood our best wishes as they begin living at Feniton near Honiton. We will all miss them and how they embraced living in our village.

Congratulations to **Emily our Carnival Queen** in gaining 3 prizes at the recent Bude Carnival.

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems. So he went to the doctor where the doctor was able to have him fitted with hearing aids which allowed him to regain 100% hearing. The elderly gentleman went back to the doctor after a month and was told that his hearing was perfect. "Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again" said the doctor. The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"



Bridgerule Table Tennis Club

The club started just over a year ago with 6 members and use of one table owned by the Village Hall, since then we have grown to 20 members most of whom turn up every week on a Tuesday at 2pm. We have been fortunate to be given a grant by North Devon Table Tennis, Balsdon Trust, and will receive £160.00 from Waitrose Community fund. This has enabled us to acquire a further 2 tables.

Most people have played Table Tennis somewhere in their youth and some have not they were mostly out of touch but it is amazing what playing regularly does to their game as well as keep them fit and agile and improve their skills at the table.

We have all standards and two members have come on so well we are entering a team in the North Devon league which starts late September.

So, if you fancy bashing a ball about on a Tuesday afternoon from 1st September onwards at 2pm come along to Bridgerule Village hall where you will receive a warm welcome. We are non-profit making and charge £2.50 a session this includes a break for tea & biscuits.

2 of our regular members Sandy & Steve have moved onto pastures green and we will miss their humour and wish them well for the future but I bet they will miss their Table tennis activity.

If you are interested please contact Jill on 01409 254349



The Right Reverend Robert Atwell, Bishop of Exeter commissioned the Revered Christopher Penn as Rural Dean of Holsworthy at St Peter & Paul, Holsworthy Parish Church. The service was held on 20th July 2015.

The Reverend Penn took over as Rural Dean Elect from Acting Rural Dean Reverend Kathy Roberts at the Visitation Service on 26th May. The service was well attended with representatives from many Parishes and the photograph shows all the Church Officers.

The Bishop is in the middle at the back of the photograph, with the Reverend Penn to his left and in front of the Bishop. The Reverend Kathy Roberts can be seen on the right of the photograph.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NOTES



#Everybody's on a Summer Holiday, even the crooks who need you too.

Everyone is on a Summer Holiday, don't let them make their dreams come true, for me and you and you and you#

Cliff sang it better. (Still does)

So lock it away - in the boot or under the cover of your hatchback. Remember - they're on holiday too and he/she/it/they are crooks.

And don't forget your doors and windows.

Enjoy yours - not his/hers/ theirs.

John McDougall Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

Telephone Number: 01288 381237

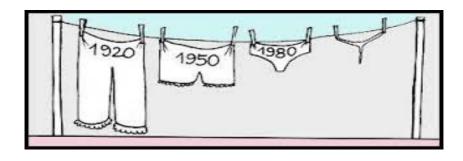


A few weeks ago Angela Brock showed some of her many films of events she has videoed over the years of our village and its events to members of the Village Coffee Club. Angela is returning to show some more at a later date. The Club now enjoys going on organised coach trips which are open to anyone who would like to join them. The next one planned is to Falmouth, on September 24th and at 12 noon we board a river boat to come back to Truro and finish the day with some retail therapy in the city.

The Christmas Lunch has been booked for December 17th at Trethorne. Everyone going by coach and again we welcome anyone who would like to come.

Coffee Club mornings are held fortnightly. The next one being 1st September at 10.30pm. If you have just moved into the village why not use Coffee Club to get to know your neighbours and others who live in our village. Audrey and Sheila will make you most welcome.

£2 will pay for your coffee/tea and some freshly baked refreshments.





On Sunday 28th June the Family Service at St Bridget's Church Bridgerule was led, for the first time, by Val Harris, with assistance from Pat Johnston and Jayne Costello. William Lucas, Caitlin Braund, Phoebe Lucas, Lucas Braund and James Fishwick assisted Val in telling the story of Jairus and his sick daughter, with the aid of Hi Viz jackets and road signs. After the service everyone enjoyed Mrs Harris's homemade biscuits with their drinks.

BRIDGERULE METHODIST CHAPEL PREACHING APPOINTMENTS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015

6th September	No preacher appointed	11.00am
13th September	Rev. N Street Sac	11.00am
20th September	Mrs S Risdon	11.00am
27th September	Mr Eric Boundy	11.00am

Harvest Festival

4th October Mr Barry Bryne 11.00am St Bridget's Attending 5th October Harvest Service/Supper and Sale of Produce 7.15pm With items by The Tamarside Singers . Everyone Welcome

11th October	Mr B Cleave	11.00am
18th October	No Service	11.00am
25th October	Mr Vic Bickle	11.00am

The South West Challenge! Diane Kirby who lives at Tackbear Manor

Bridgerule took up the sport of 'Archery' just 6 years ago. But it seems she is a natural and can now compete with some of the best, both men and women and even take home the prizes. One such contest was held only a week or two ago. This being, 'The South West Challenge' and was held over 8 days in four different venues. Each club hosting two days.



Diane says it was just what it said in the title "a challenge". Not only the devious course setting but the terrain. Some very steep and this year quite slippery with quite a few contestants falling getting from one target to another. This year 140 archers began the challenge from all over England, Wales, Ireland, Germany, France and Holland.

The archers had to travel firstly to Kitley House in The South Hams, followed by Mount College in Tavistock, Muscovy in Liskeard near to Trago Mills and finally Hatherleigh where Elmtree Archers were the hosts for the final weekend. There were several classes from hand made primitive bows to crossbows. She shoots a recurve with wooden arrows which is classed as Hunting Tackle. All ages were competing from 8 to 88! The challenge proved to be brilliant for Diane and she came home with three 1sts, one 2nd and Winner of her class over the week.

Later in September Diane is to take part in The Nationals.

If you would like to try Archery why not contact 01288 345133 Elmtree

Archers.

Congratulations Diane and Good Luck for the future.

The trophies Diane won at 'The South West Challenge'.



BRIDGERULE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Children from years 5 and 6 enjoyed an outdoor and adventurous residential with their peers from Bradford, Pyworthy and Black Torrington to Barton Hall, near Paignton. Grateful thanks were extended to Mr John Nettles for a very generous contribution towards the trip.

Children from Class 2 benefited from a day of first aid delivered by Mr Geoff Foster from St. John's Ambulance. Areas covered were bleeding, bandaging, etc. Concluding the terms topic on 'Inventors & Inventions' a very interesting visit was made to Morwellham Quay.

Class 1 children enjoyed a visit to Bridge Mill courtesy of Rosie and Alan Beat; as well as a visit to the Atlantis Park at Bideford.

During the final week the children along with their peers from Black Torrington visited Widemouth Bay. The younger children enjoyed beach activities organised by Budehaven whilst the older children were given a surfing lesson organised by Shoreline.

A very busy term ended with a special assembly to say farewell to leavers. Gifts from the FOBS committee as well as Bibles from the Church were presented to: James, Georgia, Sofia, Will, Aaron, Jodie, Roman & Ella.

In September we welcome new reception children: Kalem, Ethan, Isla, Alesha and Amber as well as Emily Carpenter who will be the third class teacher.

AUTUMN By Marie Field

Autumn, and our year draws to a close,
The trees all along with rich colour glow.
The year's departing gift of fiery vibrant tints,
Of crimson red, warm amber, and sunset pink.
Soft misty mornings, cobwebs sparkling in the dew,
Tiny, iridescent twinkling rainbows of every hue.
And swifts and swallows long since flown,
On their journey to Africa and a warmer home.
But in orchards and hedgerows hanging by the score,
Ripe mellow fruits, waiting to be stored.
Giving Sarah extra scope with her preserving pans,
To make her delicious and ever popular homemade jams.

Then with drifts and brown leaves folk become aware,
Of the transient scent of woodsmoke in evening air.
Whilst from church and chapel the gentle sound of hymns,
To give thanks for a Harvest safely gathered in.
Autumn, a cool mysterious season, summer heat now gone,
With days growing shorter, nights becoming long,
But a few precious warm days with a lingering sun,
A faint echo of the gold of summer its course now run.
For the earth is soon to settle down to sleep,
To withstand hard frosts and cold so deep.
To then awaken to the new year and the gift it brings,
Of new hope and warmth and the young loveliness of Spring.

ST E	BRIDGET'S CHURCH	I
SERVICES SET FOR SEPTEMBER 2015		
Sunday 6th September	Service with Chris Followed by Chu	· ·
Sunday 13th September	Sung Mass	11.15am
Sunday 20th September	Morning Prayer	11.15am
Sunday 27th September	Family Service Harvest Festival	11.15am 7.00pm

SHORT MAT BOWLS CHAMPIONS



The Short Mat Bowls Club, now over a year old, ran its second competition in June.

Members drew cards to see whom they would be playing alongside in teams of three. Run over two weeks, it involved every team playing each other with the winning team being the one with most points. As before, it was competitive but above all hugely enjoyable. The winning team again featured the formidable partnership of Kate Trayford and Derek Clark accompanied on this occasion by

Bill Jackson. The Club plans to run the next event in October/November, by which time it will have acquired a new mat.

Interested in Evening Bowls?

The recent skittles/bowls competition in Revel week provoked quite a lot of interest in bowls. Currently, although the membership is at full capacity on Friday afternoons, we would consider starting a weekly evening session if there were enough people interested. Alternatively, we might run an additional afternoon session on Mondays.

If you are interested in playing either in the evenings or Monday afternoons, please contact Bill Jackson on 01288 382851 or email

w.jackson@btclick.com.

FUNDS RAISED DURING REVEL WEEK

Sunday Village Hall £430.

Monday Ladies Skittles £177.

Wednesday FOBS £601.

Thursday Football Club £320.

Friday Methodist Chapel £410.

Cr

DAFFODIL BULB PLANTING

Chris and Rose Hitchings have been given the

chance of acquiring some bulbs to plant around our village again. As happened before we would like some volunteers to help with the planting. Please look out for posters which will let you know when this will be happening!



Thank you Bill & Margaret and great to see Ray the Fisherman on the float!



REVEL QUEEN EMILY & SOPHIE HER ATTENDANT

BRIDGERULE
CARNIVAL WEEK 2015 RESULTS



Walking Group—The Avengers

Fancy Dress: Under 5. Olaf from Frozen - Harry Cholwill

5—8 years. Frozen - Ella Cholwill & Libby Goodall Adults - Lucas Family & Joshua

Equestrian: Two Little Indians - Emily & Evie Skipp

Tableaux Childrens Open - Camelot - The Trayford's & Linney's

Humourous - 1st. Brads Got Talent - Bradworthy Carnival.

2nd. Taming the Tamar. - Eastcott, Hitchings & Friends.

Original: 1st. Open Gardens - Brian Beadle & Friends.

2nd. Tamarside Singers Go Country - Tamarside Singers.

3rd. Dan Abbott 320 - Dan Abbott.

Trade: 1st. CBL Stoves Red Post - Carl Bungay.

2nd. JJ Logs & Kindling - The Pengilley's.

3rd. Bobcat Hire - Colin Cholwill.

Queen of Queens: Fairy Queens - Bude Fairy Queen - Abigail Fallaize.

Runner-Up Holsworthy Fairy Queen - Zara Kepple.

RESULTS OF COMPETITIONS HELD DURING REVEL WEEK IN THE HALL

CHILDREN'S ART

Ages 2-4
1st. Ethan Pinchess
Ages 5 - 7
1st. Yasmin Twelftree
2nd. Jayden Linney
3rd. Samuel Trayford

Ages 8 - 11 1st. Holly Trayford

2nd. Ella Masters3rd. Jaidon Pinchess

Ages 12 - 15 1st. Katie Hallett

CHILDREN'S COOKERY

JAM TARTS Up to Age 9 1st. Yasmin Twelftree

2nd. Caitlin Braund

3rd. Violet Skilton

Ages 10 - 14 1st. Ella Masters

2nd. Jasmine Masters

3rd. Lola Masters

FAIRY CAKES Up to Age 9 1st. Jaz Masters

2nd. Lucas Braund

3rd. Jaydon & Sam Linney

Ages 10 - 14 1st. Ella Masters

2nd. Katie Hallett

CHILDREN'S SILLY SELFIE

1st. James Fenwick

2nd. Katie Hallett

FLOWERS IN A SHELL 1st. Yasmin Twelftree

2nd. Samuel Trayford

3rd. Lola Masters

Highly Commended Kalem Gliddon

Holly Trayford Ella Masters Jaz Masters

GREETING'S CARD 1st. James Fenwick

ADULTS COOKERY - CHEESE SCONES

1st. Wendy Rimmer

2nd. Clarice Harris

3rd. Heather Fraser

Highly Commended Clarice Harris

VICTORIA SANDWICH

1st. Wendy Rimmer

2nd. Claire Braund

3rd. Heather Fraser

Highly Commended Freda Lacey

Angela Brock

Christine Gee

BOILED FRUIT CAKE

1st. Heather Fraser

Clarice Harris 2nd.

3rd. Christine Gee

HOME GROWN PRODUCE

POTATOES 1st. Colin Cholwill

2nd. Colin Cholwill

3rd. Chris Hitchings

ONIONS 1st. Chris Hitchings Colin Cholwill **CARROTS**

1st.

RUNNER BEANS 3rd. Chris Hitchings

TOMATOES 1st. Chris Hitchings

VASE OF SWEET PEAS Emily Fenwick 1st.

> 2nd Cindy Neep

HOUSE PLANT 1st. Lyndsey Beadle

> Sarah Coleman 2nd

> **Heather Fraser** 3rd.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT IN WINE GLASS

1st. Heather Fraser

2nd. Clarice Harris 3rd. Joan Marshall

Highly Commended Claire Braund

ADULT ART 1st. Melissa Field

2nd. lill Harker

3rd. Jill Harker **CRAFT - WOOD** 1st. Chris Hitchings

2nd. Colin Cholwill

WOOL 1st. Freda Lacey

2nd. Freda Lacey

FABRIC 1st. Joan Marshall

2nd. Christine Gee3rd. Wendy Rimmer.

LONGEST DOCK LEAF 1st. Clarice Harris

2nd. Hallett Coleman Family

3rd. Colin Cholwill

LONGEST SUNFLOWER

Equal First - Honeybelle Hosie

Terry Brock - 7' 5".

Third - Kalem, Riley and Harper Gliddon

FUN DOG SHOW:

Best Pedigree - 1st. Peppin - Ros Luckman 2nd. Bella - Brian Beadle

3rd. Flo - Harriet Tozer 4th. Rana - Tamara Chard

Best Crossbreed 1st. Millie—Julia Read 2nd. Bouncer - Ivula Robinson

3rd. George - Emily Fenwick 4th. Thor - Myree Squires

Best Movement - 1st. Flo - Jimmy Rickett 2nd. Harry - Freda Lacey

3rd. Flo Harriet Tozer 4th. Breeze - Anne Smith

Most Handsome - 1st. Bouncer - Nula Robinson. 2nd Teddy - Amanda Linney **Dog looks like Owner** - 1st. Teddy - Amanda Linney 2nd. Flo - Jimmy Rickett

Waggiest Tail 1st. Bobby - Martin Colwill. 2nd. Jim - Kelvin Davey

3rd. Blue - Sophia Skilton 4th. Lex - Kevin Norton

Prettiest Bitch 1st. Willow - Zac Booth. 2nd. Rana - Tamara Chard.

3rd. Sophie - Holly Trayford. 4th. Flo - Harriet Tozer.

Best Veteran: 1st. Harry - Freda Lacey. 2nd. Sophie - Anne Smith.

3rd. Bella - Lyndsey Beadle. 4th. Samantha - Annette Russet.

Best Rescue: 1st. Lexy - Kevin Norton. 2. Jim - Kelvin Davey.

3rd. Harry - Freda Lacey. 4th. Bouncer - Nula Robinson.

Dog Judge Take Home: 1st. Mia - Lyndsey Beadle. 2nd George - Emily Fenwick.

Best Child Handler: 1st. Flo - Harriet Tozer. 2nd. Bella - Katie Hallett.

3rd. Wil - Lily Roberts. 4th. Sophie - Holly Trayford.

Fancy Dress: 1st. Bobby - Sophie Colwill. 2nd Blue - Sophoa Skilton.

Best in Show: Willow - Zac Booth.

Reserve Best in Show: Peppin - Ros Luckman.

WINE AND WISDOM Winners - Table 17. Runners-Up. The Maltesers.



Not so blind then....... The Winners of Skittle/Bowls Challenge, Three Blind Mice. Colin, Fiona and Alan just being presented with their prizes from Rose.



Can someone tell Julie this was July!!



Proud Freda with Harry.



Well Grandma is the Editor!!



Best Entry in Carnival Brilliant!



These ladies are organising something, they wouldn't be just chatting!!

BRIDGERULE CARNIVAL 2015 - SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

150.00 154.80 141.12 150.00	20.00	58.80 2.25 62.59 25.00	£885.55	£600.00 111.03 £1,596.58
				150.00
Queens Expenses St. John's Ambulance Cornish & Devon Post Advert North Devon Pipes and Drums	Public Address System - A Bewes Carnival Prize Money	Cornish Rosette Company C. Neep - Expenses Footballs for Football Tombola Gift to Retiring Queen	Donations to Village Organisations Bridgerule C of E School Bridgerule Village Hall Methodist Chapel	St Bridget's Church Income over Expenditure
37.50 <u>EXPENSES</u> 155.80		817.13 106.15 160.00	50.00	270.00 £1596.58
71.00 74.80 10.00	64.80 295.50 168.70 42.50	48.30 20.58 80.00 25.00 55.00	10.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 50.00 20.00 20.00 30.00 30.00 20.00	
INCOME Competitions (Show Day) Dog Show Entries Dog Show Refreshments BBQ Hire - FOBS	g	viduals bola cets sold at pub) stall	ng nan ential rage e	Bobcat Hire Colin Cholwill Mr & Mrs D Field

Victor Cowan-Dickie was born in Boston Lincolnshire and now lives at Baraq Bridgerule

One of Victor's early memories was at the age of 7 whilst living in Bath and during the time of The Blitz. He recalls his dad directing him and his mum to a corner of their cottage which dad considered the strongest part and moments later the whole of the house was demolished but the family were



safe. A family friend owned a large house with a summer house and it was this summerhouse that now became Victor's home. At this time Victor's dad worked for the Navy in the Admiralty Headquarters known now as The Imperial Hotel in Bath.

Later the family moved to a caravan but had no running water and Victor remembers his mum heating a copper filled with collected rainwater outside of the caravan for him to have a bath. The family always kept rabbits and when mum wanted something new for herself a rabbit was sold to the local butcher. Mum also worked as a typist for the Admiralty and Victor remembers being given 10d to buy a lunch, desert and cup of tea available at a nearby café. Victor enjoyed owning pets and he told me that a white mouse used to be kept in his top pocket.

Later Mum and Dad became manager and manageress of The Lamb Hotel in Wallingford and Victor remembers a huge American army camp being nearby which he and other children would visit and be given sweets. One day he went to the camp on his bike and the place was deserted. Bikes and personal belongings of these soldiers still lying around. This he later found was due to the D Day landings.

At the age of 11 Victor was educated at a boarding school. He remembers on one occasion watching Spitfires and Hurricanes flying over the school building and being reprimanded by the teacher to come away from the window. It was at this time that he became very interested in horses and holidays were spent at a stable, riding Bunty and hunting with the Savernake Forest Hunt. But dad became ill and the family moved to The Moorland Hotel, in Shaugh Prior when mum became the cook. Victor's father believed in a good Scottish Education and so he was sent to Clyde College.

and became severely bullied by two boys (the names he can still remember). The school food apparently was horrible, headmaster always seemed drunk and eventually twelve of the boys, one being Victor, ran away into the hills where theY were undiscovered for three days. Once found they received the leather strap and Victor was expelled.

In 1949 Victor took an entrance exam for Monkton Combe School in Somerset but failed because he had no Latin. Later having improved his Latin, he passed the entrance exam and enrolled and loved it there. Later the family moved to Penzance where Victor who had always enjoyed sports was chosen to play rugby for the first fifteen for three years and rowed in the first eight at Henley Regatta for 2 years. He then attended the Camborne School of Mines which was affiliated to London University on a two year course. Whilst here Victor could not be called up for National Service but at the age of 19 upon leaving he was, serving at the Artillery in Oswestry in the Welsh Borders. The Troop Commander suggested that he became an officer and so Victor was sent to Aldershot and then spent 2 years at the Royal Academy at Sandhurst. He enjoyed his time in the army and was dutifully commissioned in 1955 but gradually he became disillusioned and decided to return to his family home in Penzance with the army title of Lieutenant Cowan-Dickie. With his army severance money he bought a boat and went fishing. He enjoyed this but it didn't make him much money so he got a job as a salesman, selling Avery Scales in Bristol living on a small salary and commission. This didn't go well and Victor decided to leave before he got sacked.

About this time he met his first wife and had three children but this did not work out. Victor then decided he would like to be a diver and went to sea on a 1000 ton steamer to earn enough to buy diving equipment. After a year he was able to purchase basic equipment and started diving as a harbour clearance diver in Newlyn and also diving for sea urchins and shellfish. Shellfish proved very profitable and this enabled Victor to buy better boats. Victor then met his second wife Mara and left Penzance to live in South Wales where he imported tropical shells which he sold to gift shops around the Welsh coast. He then formed a company, Industrial Water Enterprises, carrying out underwater surveys and demolitions for different companies who were constructing the then new Milford Haven Super Tanker Port. West Down House in Bradworthy then became the family home with Victor travelling back to South Wales to continue carrying out his work.

Gradually demolition and construction work dried up and he now concentrated on marine salvage. As his work was mostly during the summer Victor was able to ride and go hunting with The Tetcott and South Tetcott Hounds. But on one occasion whilst on a dive Victor suffered a severe attack of the divers' disease, the bends and could not work for the next year. It was during this time too that Victor found himself left on his own with 5 children and eventually he was forced to sell his home at West Down.

After a while Victor met Sue and together they moved to a house near Lands End where Victor became a partner in a firm called Celtic Oil and Celtic Ocean Salvage. They married, had son Matthew but unfortunately they later parted company and Victor found himself once again on his own with his children.

His company also failed and he began working with another salvage company at Hayle where again he had another severe attack of the bends and the medical profession suggested he should quit diving altogether. Victor had always been a pub goer and so decided "not to buy it" anymore but to "sell it"! Various pubs were then managed but his ambition was to run his own and eventually Victor was approached by Devonish Brewery and took on The Vyvyan Arms in Camborne. At this time Victor happened to meet his ex-wife Susan and both decided that they were now older and wiser and that perhaps it had been a mistake to part company and re-married.

Together with the help of a bank and Whitbread Brewery they bought their own pub, The Newmarket Inn in Torrington. It is here where their youngest child Alice was born. Two to three years was spent building up the trade and then they decided to sell it only to buy The Coaching Inn in South Molton, where they lived for about twelve years. It was during this time at The Coaching Inn that Victor suffered a heart attack, required a knee replacement and had prostrate problems and so the couple called it a day. The pub was sold and they moved to Lapford. Two years was spent endeavouring to get this property into shape but eventually decided to sell it and in 2012 Victor and Sue moved into Baraq.

Victor has 10 children and step-chidren, 24 grandchildren and step-grandchildren and 10 great grand-children. With pride Victor told me that one of his grandsons, Luke, aged just 22 has just received his first England Rugby Cap. The day before I visited, Victor and Sue had just learnt that Alice had passed to enter Hull University to read bio-chemistry. It was good to meet up with Victor again after several years and I thank him for his time.



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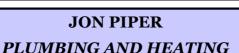
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